

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 37-42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for the reason that there is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation “the variable data obtained by searching out the file” in the last two lines of Claim 37. Claim 37 and dependent Claims 38-42 have been amended to recite data generating means for obtaining the variable data by searching out of the file, causing the first editing means to generate, in the file, data of the display symbols and causing the second editing means to generate, in the file, data of the control symbols based on the variable name of the obtained variable data. This amendment should serve to obviate the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112.

It is noted that Claims 37-42 have not been rejected based on prior art. Accordingly, these claims should now be allowable for the reason that the reference to Lewis et al. does not disclose data generating means for obtaining the variable data by searching out of the file, causing the first editing means to generate, in the file, data of the display symbols and causing the second editing means to generate, in the file, data of the control symbols based on the variable name of the obtained variable data, as recited in Claims 37-42.

Claims 44, 47-48, 51 and 54-55 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lewis et al., US Patent No. 5812394. It is submitted that these claims, as amended herein, are allowable over the teachings of Lewis et al. for the reasons set forth hereinafter.

Claims 44 and 51, and all of the claims depending therefrom, recite a program executing a first editing process for generating a display content program including screen data including the variable names and the display symbols, a second editing process for generating a control

procedure program for generating a control procedure program including control data including the control symbols and the variable names, and a data generating process for causing the first editing process to generate, in a single file, data of the display symbols and causing the second editing process to generate in a single file, data of the control symbols, the single file integrally storing (1) the screen data, (2) the control data, and (3) variable data, which is common to (a) the display content program, and (b) the control procedure program, and which includes the variable names. As amended herein, these claims also recite a data generating process for obtaining the variable data by searching out of a single file, causing the first editing process to generate, in the single file, data of the display symbols and causing the second editing process to generate, in the single file, data of the control symbols based on the variable name of the obtained variable data.

On the other hand, Lewis et al, discloses programming of a controller (especially PLC) of logic type. Moreover, as to concrete examples of programming languages for programming, Lewis et al. discloses various programming languages including ladder program, which is also used in the present invention (Column 4). Moreover, Lewis et al. discloses an editor operable on Windows. This editor generates a logic diagram. A diagram is generated by drawing device symbols 120 and connecting lines therebetween. (see Fig. 2 and Columns 15 and 16). Lewis et al. also discloses a device definition device logic editor 122 for generating a logic program (Fig. 2). Further, Lewis discloses that the screen objects may also display numeric and text information that allows an operator to monitor the status, performance, and variables associated with the each defined aspect of a process (Column 88).

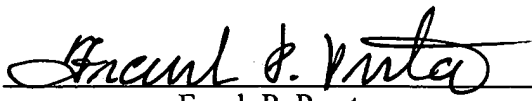
On the other hand, Lewis et al. does not disclose that both the editor processes generate respective symbols in a single file that integrally stores the screen data, control data, and variable data which is common to the display content program and control procedure program, and which

includes the variable names, as recited in Claims 44 and 51, and the claims depending therefrom. Also, Lewis et al. does not disclose the feature of a data generating process for obtaining the variable data by searching out of a single file, causing the first editing process to generate, in the single file, data of the display symbols and causing the second editing process to generate, in the single file, data of the control symbols based on the variable name of the obtained variable data, as recited in Claims 44 and 51, and all of the claims depending therefrom. This last recitation is similar to the language in Claims 37-42 which are not rejected by the Examiner based on prior art.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that all of the claims in the present application, as amended herein, are allowable over the teachings of the cited reference to Lewis et al., and formal allowance thereof is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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